

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Twenty-sixth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 5 – 9 June 2023

Appendices of the Convention

Nomenclature matters

Flora

NOMENCLATURE FOR PACHYPODIUMS (*PACHYPODIUM* SPP.)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with the specialist on botanical nomenclature of the Plants Committee (Ms. Ronell R. Klopper).
2. Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature* lists the following taxonomic reference for *Pachypodium* spp.:

CITES Aloe and Pachypodium Checklist (U. Eggli et al., 2001, compiled by Städtische Sukkulente-Sammlung, Zurich, Switzerland, in collaboration with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and its update: An Update and Supplement to the CITES Aloe & Pachypodium Checklist [J. M. Lüthy (2007), CITES Management Authority of Switzerland, Bern, Switzerland] as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of Aloe and Pachypodium.

3. At its 19th meeting (Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.287 and 19.288 on *Nomenclature for pachypodiums* (*Pachypodium* spp.):

Directed to the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee

19.287 *The Secretariat shall, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee:*

- a) *subject to the availability of external resources, commission the drafting of an updated standard nomenclature reference for Pachypodium spp., taking into consideration relevant elements of paragraph 6 of the Addendum to document PC25 Doc. 31; and*
- b) *report on progress or results of this work to the Plants Committee.*

Directed to the Plants Committee

19.288 *The Plants Committee shall:*

- a) *consider progress and results reported by the Secretariat as per Decision 19.287;*
- b) *provide input to assist with the preparation of the updated Pachypodium checklist, as noted in paragraph 6 of the Addendum to document PC25 Doc. 31; and*

c) *make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.*

Progress in the implementation of Decision 19.287

4. The Secretariat estimates the cost of the development of the checklist for the genus *Pachypodium* called for in paragraph a) of Decision 19.287 at USD 40,000. At the time of writing, these funds had been partially secured (see [Notification No. 2023/024](#))¹.
5. In parallel and in consultation with the specialist on botanical nomenclature, the Secretariat has developed draft terms of reference of the checklist for the genus *Pachypodium*, as contained in Annex 1 to the present document.
6. Noting that paragraph a) of Decision 19.287 calls for the consideration of relevant elements of paragraph 6 of the Addendum to document PC25 Doc. 31, these have been included as Annex 2 to the present document for ease of reference at the present meeting.
7. Based on a quick review of the [Plants of the World Online](#), the specialist on botanical nomenclature estimates that an updated nomenclature reference for the genus *Pachypodium* spp. will entail ca. 22 species.
8. After further consultation with the specialist on botanical nomenclature, the Secretariat notes that any future amendment to the standard nomenclature references in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature* for the taxa *Aloe* and *Pachypodium* would best be done separately; noting that they are both taxonomically and botanically different, and relevant expertise is centred in different networks and institutions.
9. Consistent with paragraph *supra*, document PC26 Doc. 43.2 covers as a separate matter the implementation of Decision 19.279 on *Nomenclature for aloes (Aloe spp.)*.

Recommendations

10. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) consider progress in the implementation of Decision 19.287; and
 - b) in accordance with paragraph b) of Decision 19.288, provide input to the draft terms of reference contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

¹ At the time of writing, a total of USD 60,168 had been secured for a package of decisions relating to nomenclature for non-timber producing plant species, including Decisions 19.287 to 19.288 on Nomenclature for pachypodiums (*Pachypodium* spp.).

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A CHECKLIST FOR *PACHYPODIUM* SPP.

Activities

- a) **Activity 1** – Desk study and consultation with experts: in consultation and collaboration with taxonomic *Pachypodium* experts:
- i) Undertake a literature review using the Plants of the World Online (POWO), the World Flora Online (WFO) Plant List, and document PC26 Doc. X.X and its Annexes as a baseline;
 - ii) Compare the taxonomic names from POWO and WFO Plant List with those listed in the scientific literature and collated in the CITES *Aloe* and *Pachypodium* Checklist (U. Egli et al., 2001) and its supplement (J. M. Lüthy, 2007), and consider any additional input made available by *Pachypodium* range States;
 - iii) Identify any discrepancies and the range States to which these apply.
- b) **Activity 2** – Develop and submit to the Secretariat for further consideration of the Plants Committee a draft of the “CITES Checklist for *Pachypodium* spp.” containing the following:
- i) Section 1: Introduction
 - Background
 - Data and information used
 - Methodology for the revision process
 - How to use the CITES Checklist
 - Bibliography
 - Key to symbols and country codes
 - ii) Section 2: Present full and alphabetically ordered lists of
 - scientific binomial names in current usage, and accepted binomials to which they are synonyms
 - accepted scientific binomials, their respective synonyms, and range States in which they occur
 - accepted scientific binomials of species occurring in each *Pachypodium* range State
 - iii) Section 3: For each species in alphabetical order, present the following information where available:
 - Valid taxon name
 - Synonym(s)
 - Common name(s) in English, French, and Spanish [when available]
 - Trade name (if applicable)
 - Life form [e.g. trees (T), shrubs (S)]
 - Maximum height
 - Distribution
 - Altitude
 - Vegetation / habitat types
 - Listing in CITES Appendices (annotations included)
 - Conservation status (published or preliminary IUCN Red List assessments, as appropriate)
 - Known to trade or likelihood to be in trade
 - Known uses
 - Known to occur in horticulture or artificial propagation
 - Identification resources and illustrations (whenever available)
 - Known reference samples (when applicable)
- c) **Activity 3** – Develop a final “CITES Checklist for *Pachypodium* spp.”, taking into account feedback provided by the Plants Committee.

PARAGRAPH 6 OF THE ADDENDUM TO DOCUMENT PC25 DOC. 31

6. *Pachypodium* checklist (PC25 Doc. 31, paragraph 10 a)

CITES documentation (checklists and identification guides) for *Pachypodium* have historically been done together with that of the aloes. Since the aloe checklist needs to be updated, it could also be pertinent to consider whether an update to the *Pachypodium* checklist is needed, and whether these two groups should continue to be treated together in the same document.

Should the proposed way forward for aloes be acceptable, then *Pachypodium* needs to be treated separately, especially since it is in a different plant family. It was further recommended that the update of the aloe and *Pachypodium* checklists be done concurrently and that the two documents should be offered for adoption at the same time.

It is proposed that the World Checklist for Vascular Plant Families be used to update the standard names for *Pachypodium*, since there are not many species in the genus *Pachypodium*. Furthermore, there has not been a lot of taxonomic activity around *Pachypodium*. Additional sources are:

- Burge, D.O., Mugford, K., Hastings, A.P. & Agrawal, A.A. 2013. Phylogeny of the plant genus *Pachypodium* (Apocynaceae). PeerJ 1: e70 <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.70>
- Pavelka, P., Prokeš, B., Vlk, V., Lavranos, J.J., židek, I. & Ramavovololona, P. 2014. *Pachypodium enigmaticum* — a new species in the Densiflorum complex. Cactus & Succulent Journal 86(5): 248–252 <https://doi.org/10.2985/015.086.0601>.

Additionally, UNEP-WCMC has flagged that the listing of *Pachypodium windsorii* needs to be resolved in the Appendices. It is not listed in its own right in Appendix I, but was split out from *Pachypodium baronii* in 2007, which is in Appendix I, based on the standard reference amendment. Should the Plants Committee agree to move forward in updating *Pachypodium* spp. standard nomenclature references, this should also be prioritized.